

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1867

To authorize additional resources for the Department of Homeland Security to enhance security activities along the international border with Mexico, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 2, 2009

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona (for herself and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To authorize additional resources for the Department of Homeland Security to enhance security activities along the international border with Mexico, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Border Violence Pre-
5 vention Act of 2009”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS**
2 **ALONG SOUTHWEST BORDER.**

3 The Secretary of Homeland Security shall expand
4 border security operations along the southwest border be-
5 tween the United States and Mexico, including the south-
6 bound inspection and investigation of vehicles, to—

- 7 (1) reduce the potential for border violence;
8 (2) enhance border security; and
9 (3) prevent the illicit flow of arms and bulk
10 cash across such southwest border.

11 **SEC. 3. UNITED STATES CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTEC-**
12 **TION.**

13 (a) ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out section 2, the Sec-
14 retary of Homeland Security, acting through the Commis-
15 sioner of United States Customs and Border Protection,
16 shall—

- 17 (1) increase southbound border security infra-
18 structure and inspection capabilities at ports of
19 entry located on the southwest border between the
20 United States and Mexico;
21 (2) acquire and deploy at least two x-ray mobile
22 inspection units to such southwest border;
23 (3) acquire and deploy at least ten dual detec-
24 tion canine teams to such southwest border;
25 (4) equip with license plate readers the out-
26 bound lanes at ports of entry located on such south-

1 west border, as determined appropriate by the Sec-
2 retary;

3 (5) acquire and equip United States Customs
4 and Border Protection personnel with body armor;
5 and

6 (6) take any other related actions or activities
7 required under section 2 to expand border security
8 operations on such southwest border.

9 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
10 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Home-
11 land Security \$70,000,000 to carry out the border security
12 operations required under subsection (a).

13 **SEC. 4. UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS EN-**
14 **FORCEMENT.**

15 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

16 (1) United States Immigration and Customs
17 Enforcement’s Border Enforcement Security
18 Taskforce (BEST) units operate within the Depart-
19 ment of Homeland Security to enhance border secu-
20 rity and reduce cross-border violence by coordinating
21 the enforcement and information sharing activities
22 of Federal, State, local, and tribal agencies along the
23 southwest border between the United States and
24 Mexico.

1 (2) The Department of Homeland Security,
2 through United States Immigration and Customs
3 Enforcement’s “Armas Cruzadas”, coordinates key
4 enforcement and intelligence personnel to address
5 the border security threat represented by the illegal
6 export of weapons from the United States into Mex-
7 ico.

8 (3) An increase in United States Immigration
9 and Customs Enforcement resources along such
10 southwest border will help prevent cross-border vio-
11 lence by helping to reduce the illicit flow of narcotics
12 into the United States and arms and bulk cash into
13 Mexico.

14 (b) ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out section 2, the Sec-
15 retary of Homeland Security, acting through the Assistant
16 Secretary of United States Immigration and Customs En-
17 forcement, shall—

18 (1) hire and deploy at least 100 additional
19 United States Immigration and Customs Enforce-
20 ment personnel to be assigned to Border Enforce-
21 ment Security Taskforce units involved in efforts to
22 reduce southwest border violence over the number of
23 such personnel so assigned as of the date of the en-
24 actment of this Act;

1 (2) improve existing Border Enforcement Secu-
2 rity Taskforce facilities and acquire new space for
3 Border Enforcement Security Taskforce units along
4 such southwest border locations;

5 (3) increase resources and personnel for Oper-
6 ation Armas Cruzadas over the resources obligated
7 and personnel so assigned as of the date of the en-
8 actment of this Act; and

9 (4) take any other related actions or activities
10 required under section 2 to expand border security
11 operations on such southwest border.

12 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
13 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Home-
14 land Security \$30,000,000 to carry out the border security
15 operations required under subsection (b).

16 **SEC. 5. COORDINATION.**

17 The Secretary of Homeland Security shall coordinate
18 with the heads of other relevant Federal, State, local, and
19 tribal agencies, as appropriate, to carry out in a com-
20 prehensive manner the border security operations required
21 under this Act.

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